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August 7, 1959

MEMORANDUM OF CONFERENCE WITH THE PRESIDENT
August 7, 1959 -- 11:15 AM

Others present: Secretary Herter
Secretary Dillon
Mr. Hagerty
Major Eisenhower



The President asked Mr. Herter and Mr. Dillon to come in to discuss the most recent message from Adenauer, which had been delivered via General Gehlen to Mr. Allen Dulles. Adenauer apparently had not shared de Gaulle's fear of a Western Summit, but now seems to be afraid that a visit to Paris and London, leaving Bonn out, would hurt Adenauer's prestige. The President said he was almost of a mind to cancel the trip. Mr. Herter agreed. Mr. Dillon pointed out the relatively cooperative attitude of Segni who will go anywhere in Europe in order to see the President.

The President and Secretary Herter discussed the schedule which State had drawn up, noting that a visit to Chequers would alter this somewhat. Mr. Herter pointed out that one difficulty in Adenauer's visiting London is that Macmillan and Adenauer are on a poor relationship, Adenauer distrusting Macmillan's firmness to some extent. Mr. Dillon pointed out that a trip to Paris, Bonn and London, leaving Italy out, would be extremely bad from Segni's point of view.

The President is concerned also over the timing of the announcement. In view of pressure from the French, he told Mr. Hagerty to make a release at 2:00 PM this afternoon (7:00 PM Paris time). He desires to avoid tempting the French to make premature announcements. The release on the visit to Britain should be made concurrently, without specifying dates.

The President then asked Secretary Herter to send a message to Adenauer, stating that he himself had been doing his best to keep everyone together and to avoid anyone's losing prestige. The message should

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point out the problem of Segni's feelings, and show the President's preference for going to Paris and London only. However, in view of Adenauer's attitude, the message should accede to his request to come to Bonn. The President said not to be too nice in the message. He also desired that Segni be informed that the President would be glad to see him in Paris. At this moment the President's plans are to fly straight to Bonn on August 27th, if necessary, lunch with Adenauer on Friday the 28th, and then proceed to London. This would allow him Tuesday the 1st to take a breather at the U.S. Embassy with nothing scheduled. He would then proceed to Paris on the 2nd of September. The President desires that de Gaulle not be allowed to mortgage all of his time. De Gaulle should be informed that their bilateral meeting would come to a close at noon on September 3rd. The President would need the afternoon and evening to visit with Segni, Luns, and Spaak prior to departure for the U.S.


John S. D. Eisenhower
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